

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB2004/003731

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B B25J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 740 699 A (BALLANTYNE ET AL) 21 April 1998 (1998-04-21)  column 2, line 19 - line 43; figure 1	1-4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23
X	US 5 792 135 A (MADHANI ET AL) 11 August 1998 (1998-08-11) column 7, line 45 - line 63; figure 5	1, 3, 16-20, 23
E	US 2004/253079 A1 (SANCHEZ DAN) 16 December 2004 (2004-12-16) paragraphs '0032!, '0033!; figure 4	1-4, 9-11, 16
X	WO 99/10137 A (MICRODEXTERITY SYSTEMS; CHARLES, STEVE, T; STOUGHTON, ROBERT, S) 4 March 1999 (1999-03-04) page 22, line 1 - page 23, line 5; figure 8  ----- -/-	1-4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/03/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mayer-Martenson, E

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB2004/003731

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 2003/018323 A1 (WALLACE DANIEL T ET AL) 23 January 2003 (2003-01-23) abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	22

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB2004/003731

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5740699	A	21-04-1998	JP	9029681 A	04-02-1997
US 5792135	A	11-08-1998	CA	2255934 A1	27-11-1997
			JP	2002504863 T	12-02-2002
			US	5976122 A	02-11-1999
			US	2002103476 A1	01-08-2002
			WO	9743942 A1	27-11-1997
			US	6371952 B1	16-04-2002
			CA	2255692 A1	27-11-1997
			JP	2002503976 T	05-02-2002
			WO	9743943 A1	27-11-1997
			US	5797900 A	25-08-1998
			US	5807377 A	15-09-1998
US 2004253079	A1	16-12-2004	NONE		
WO 9910137	A	04-03-1999	AU	9036098 A	16-03-1999
			WO	9910137 A1	04-03-1999
			US	6330837 B1	18-12-2001
US 2003018323	A1	23-01-2003	US	2004162547 A1	19-08-2004
			CA	2451824 A1	09-01-2003
			EP	1408846 A2	21-04-2004
			JP	2005502398 T	27-01-2005
			WO	03001986 A2	09-01-2003
			WO	03001987 A2	09-01-2003
			US	2003036748 A1	20-02-2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY